



# VISTA DESK REFERENCE

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Version 3.1

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## Appendix 32B: Opportunity Listing Approval—Key Words and Terms to Watch for

This list is not meant to be all-inclusive, but rather an indicator of what may be prohibited VISTA activities. All words and terms listed depend on context.

| Words and terms that may indicate a prohibited activity  |  |
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| Business/profit<br>Candidate, election, campaign, politics, politicians, elected officials<br>Consultant<br>Legislation<br>Lobbying/advocating<br>Organizing<br>Petitions, boycotts, strikes, protests<br>Spiritual programs, missions, prayer, retreats, meditation, faith congregation, worship, religion<br>Union/s, collective bargaining agreements |  |
| Words and terms that may indicate the project is not directly connected to VISTA's mission of alleviating poverty  |  |
| Animal welfare/animal observatory/animal protection<br>Environmental conservation/ecosystems/cleanups/waste management   |  |
| Words and terms that may indicate direct service   |  |
| Direct service/ clients/ caseload<br>Nursing homes/assisted living/hospitals<br>Teaching/instruction/teacher aide<br>Sports/camp/day care  |  |
| Other words and terms to watch for   |  |
| Lay-offs/ staff shortages  | AmeriCorps VISTA members may be displacing a paid employee   |
| Reproductive rights, family planning, pregnancy care, pregnancy center   | May warrant double checking to ensure VISTA members are not engaged in prohibited activities; including advocating for or against reproductive choice or abortion. |
| Staff  | May be acting in a staff capacity or replacing/displacing paid staff which are both prohibited.  |
| Supervision/supervise  | VISTA members are not allowed to supervise or advise other VISTA members, AmeriCorps or staff members.   |
| Food stamps, EBT, SNAP   | May display that the sponsor is promising benefits that are not within the purview of the sponsor to promise.  |